# WASHINGTON

Presentation of the British Minister to the President.

#### THE WAR DEPARTMENT DIFFICULTY.

Passage in the Senate of the Supplementary Tenure of Office Bill.

Argument in the McArdle Case in the Supreme Court.

Presentation of the British Minister-Speeches of Mr. Thornton and President Johnson. Mr. Thornton, the new British Minister, was duly presented to President Johnson to-day, at the White use, by Mr. Secretary Seward, and delivered his letter of credence from her Majesty Queen Victoria to the President. At the appointed time, half-past cleven o'clock in the forenoon, Mr. Thornton arrived at the White House in his carriage, accompanied by Mr. Ford, the first Secretary of Legation, and on alighting therefrom was ushered into the Bine Room, where Mr. Johnson and Mr. Soward were awaiting his arrival. Both Mr. Thornand his Secretary were in full court dress, with cocked hats and swords, and created quite a flutter as they passed through the assemblage of tadies and gentiemen who were in the vestibule ready to participate in a ceremony which is never of a coublic character.

Mr. Seward formally presented Mr. Thornton to the dept of the Envoy of her Britannic Majesty, when ne delivered the following address:-

The delivered the following address:—

Sim—I have the henor to deliver into your Excellency's hands a letter addressed to you by her Majesty Queen Vintoria, accrediting me as her Majesty's Minister to your Excellency. I have also received her Majesty's corders a saure your Excellency of her sincere triendship, and of the deep interest she takes in the welfare and prosperity of the nation over which you, so worthely preside. Her Majesty's government and the English nation are deeply grateful for the warm sympathy shown by the people of the United States on the occasion of the death of my lameated predecessor. Allow me to assure your Excellency that I shall do my best to take his place in their affections, and to strengthen the relations of cordial friendship which happily subsist, and which it is our earnest desire and our duty as kinsmen to maintain between the two countries. In this pleasing task I am combined that I may count upon the support and assistance of your Excellency, as well as of the distinguished sistesmen who compose your Cabinet and the Legislature of this nation.

The President replied to this address as follows:— The President replied to this address as follows:-

Mr. Thensoon-Your Queen enjoys more highly than

Mr. Theoryson, Your Queen enjoys more highly than any other severeign the respect and sympathy of the American people. The people of the United States well believe that she is entirely sincore in the kindly message which, under her command, you have delivered to me, and this belief will encourage them to hope for a speedy and amicable adjustment of matters in difference between her Majesty's government and the government of the United States. Your late predecessor, Sir Frederick Bruce, without any disobedience to instructions or any want of regard to British interests, won the respect and esteem of this government and nation. Sir Frederick's suddon death revealed to ourselves the fact that the friendship we cherished for him had even acquired the intensity of fraternal affection. It will be a pleasing duty for me to extend to you the same consideration and confidence which he so eminently enjoyed. In regard to the political relations of the United States and Great Britain only one thing seems to be necessary, which is that the statesmen and people of the two countries may carefully and constantly study to conform their measures to the political logic which, in every region worse the English languageds spoken, so distinctly manifests itself in the increasing line of constitutional freedom and the rapid manch of a common, tresstable and indivisible civilization.

The Johnson-Grant correspondence forms at present the staple of conversation with politicians of all grades to this city. The veracity of the statements and countwo distinguished disputants has his set of warm be-lievers and admirers. The radicals are perfectly satisth General Grant's unsupported version against that of the President, endorsed by four members of bis Cabinet. The latter is now receiving all the abuse of ert, instrumental in placing Grant in a false light the country, to the injury of his well earned repuon. The democrats, or the other hand, profess to see cloven hoof of Stanton in Grant's last letter of e correspondence-incemplete so far as having pe response from the President to Grant's final letter-was Grant of duplicity in withholding from the President his real reason for acting as he did, which was, as he that the President would appoint under the act of February 20, 1863, some person not agreeable to the radicals, who could hold the office for a term of at least six months, until a regular nomination was ratified by the Senate. The question is discussed here in connection with Grant's expressed doubts upon the matter, to supply sacancies in the Executive departments in certain cases" is repealed by any subsequent legislation. Nothing, hewever, can be found in the statutes passed by Congress since the date of the act mentioned nulli-Grant to understand that it was repealed, and this, as the General states, influenced his action materially. Yet it was a very easy task to escentain definitely whether the law was cuil in force or not. That it is in force and of a very inconvenient character may be gathered from the resolution offered by Senator Fessenden to-day that the Judiciary Committee be instructed to inquire into the propriety of modifying this act—the nature of the modification suggested being intended to cut off the provision of six months, the limited time allowed to any person temporarily appointed to office by the President. It is clear that neither Secretary Stanton nor General Grant gave much attention to the correct reading of the statutes of Congress, or even to come very recent of February, 1863, is still a law and that the President has already made an appointment under its provisions to hold the office of Assistant Socretary of the Trea amy for six menths pending the regular appointment, a am enabled to state on the best authority that a reply so General Grant's last letter, included in the correspondence which was transmitted to the House of Repsecentatives by Mr Stanton, has been prepared by the President, and will be delivered to General Grant ton warow. That there was a conspiracy between Secre tary Stanton, General Grant and certain members of Congress, having for its object the publication to the could make any reply to the highly disrespectful letter Grant, is becoming planner as the circumstances tending the afair are better known. It is well understood here that those concerned in the plot feated the effect of another com-manication from the White House; they were appre-

Leavise that such a communication would not only go far towards pentralizing the force of Grant's last broadside, but would, in all probability, present so powerful an argument an proof of Grant's premeditated treachery towards the Executive as to seriously damage that distinguished officer's character for veracity and carry in favor of the President the sympathy of the great body of the people.

They trusted that if the correspondence was

mitted at once any other letters that might pass between the Executive Mansion and Army Headquarters would be permitted to remain unnetteed. Hence the baste in enaking a return to the call of Congress, and a copy of the correspondence was sent to the House of Representalives before the President could have time to answer

General Grant's last letter.

It is said that it resolution will be introduced calling for this letter, and the people will then have possession of both sides of the question in fell, and will be able to judge of the question of veracity between the President of the United States and All the members of his Cabinet on the one side and Genera, Grant on the other.

Complications in the Sale of Samana. Samane peninsula is very likely to prove a failure. It is now ascertained that Biaz, the leader of the disaffected party to St. Domingo, has sent an age, to New York who is at present staying there awaiting for ther develop-ments before corong to Washington to no office with

cretary Seward for the sale of Samana. Biax be successful Pujeol's authority for disposing of a portion of St. Domingo will, of course, be repudiated and Biax will be allowed the opportunity of striking a bargain for Samana with Secretary Seward. Before contemplating the purchase Mr. Seward will very likely wait to see who is destined to become ruler of St.

The Claims of American Citizens Against Venezuela.

The claims of American citizens against the govern-

ment of Venezuela so long pending now promise a speedy adjustment one way or the other. Señor Florencio Ribas, Secretary of Legation and Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the government of Venezuela, held a long interview with the Secretary of State on Thursday, in which the claims of American citizens against Venezuela were fully discussed. The result was the drawing up of a formal paper requesting Baron Stocckel, the Russian Minister, to act as umpire in the case as it may come from the arbitrators. The Baron is at present in New York. The paper will be forwarded to him there.

Secretary McCulloch is still confined to his house by the injuries received by his fall on the steps of the Treasury building. He is able to move about his room, but the physicians in attendance think it best that he

Receipts from Customs.

The receipts for customs at the ports below mentioned from January 27 to 31st, inclusive, were as

Baltimore. New Orleans, Jan. 12 to 19. San Francisco, Dec. 30 to Jan. 4. Total.....\$2,006,075

Change of the Mail Route to New Orleans. In consequence of the frequent failures which have lately occurred on the mail route via Lynchburg, Va., and Knoxville. Tenn., the Post Office Department has today isseed orders to forward the New York, Fhiladelphia, Baltimore and Washington mails for and from New Orleans by way of Louisville, Ky.

A New Political Movement-Proposed Na-tional Convention of the Producing In-

terests.
A movement is being made for the call of a National Convention, to be assembled at Cincinnati, Ohio, to represent the producing industries of the United States. The character of the convention will probably be somewhat political as well as material, it being the intent to place the government and its policy under the control of the producing interests. The convention will be called under the auspices of the "National Cheap Freight Railway League," and candidates for President and Vice President to represent the interests of produc-tion will, without doubt, be put in nomination.

The Case of Associate Justice Field.
The statement that Representative Wilson, of Iowa testimony upon the case of Judge Field, is not correct The Telegram states that the committee were in session again this morning. The editor of the newspaper of this city in which the accusation was first pub was examined. He disowned the author ship of the charge, stating that the article was handed in just before going to press. The gentleman refused to give the name of the writer of the paragraph at present, but would confer with the person, and, if consent were given, he would divulge the name; if tion. The committee postponed a further hearing until Monday next. The committee are determined to give the case a thorough ventilation. They consider the reac lution of the House as exacting no other course.

ng at eleven o'clock and had a short but very pleasan interview with the President, After leaving the au-Executive mansion. The Commutation Money Paid by Drafted

norning, in which the bill in relation to the commutation money paid by drafted men was considered in conof all such money in cases where the claims were althe time of passage of the act. The committee have now determined to report a bill extending the time for allow ample time for all parties interested to take proper

Text of the Bill Providing for the Funding of the National Debt.

The following is the full text of the substitute re-

ported by Senator Sherman yesterday, from the Finance Committee, for the bill providing for the funding of the

national debt:five per centum per annum payable semi-annually, and bearing date so as to require the payment of an equal amount of the interest quarterly; such bonds to be payable in forty years from date and to be redeemable in coin, at the pleasure of the United States, after ten years from date; to be issued to an amount sufficient to cover all outstanding or existing obligations of the United States, other than the existing five per centum bonds, and to be exchanged for such otherwise, not less than par, as the Secretary of the Treasury may deem most conductive to the interests of the government; and the said bonds and the proceeds thereof shall be exclusively used for the redemption of, or in exchange for, the existing securities of the United States. Sec. 2. That the bonds issued under the first section of this act shall be known as the "consolidated debt of the United States," and the same shall be exempt from taxation in any form by or under State, municipal or local authority; and the same shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes or duties to the United States, other than such income tax as may be assessed upon other incomes; and in consideration of the preceded of the united so the rate of interest provided for by this act there is hereby appropriated out of the preceded of the duties on imported goods annually an amount equal to one per centum on the bonds issued under the act, which sum shall be reserved and annually applied to the purchase or payment of the gational debt.

Sec. 3. That in addition to the sums necessary to pay

under the act, which sum shall be reserved and annually applied to the purchase or payment of the national dobt.

SEC. 3. That in addition to the sums necessary to pay the interest of the public debt and the maturing funded dobt of the United States, there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, a sum which, including the said interest and maturing debt and the one per centum reserved as aforesaid, shall amount to \$135,000,000 annually, which sum, during each fiscal year after the current fiscal year, small be applied to the reduction of the public dost in sech a manner as may be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury or as Congress may hereafter direct; and such reduction shall be in lieu of the sinking fund contemplated by the fifth section of the act entitled "An act to authorize the issue of United States notes and for the redemption or funding thereof, and for funding the floating debt of the United States, bearing interest at the rate of six per centum per annum and redeemable at the pleasure of the United States, bearing interest at the rate of six per centum per annum and redeemable at the pleasure of the United States, are the years from their date, at the option of the holder thereof, be exchanged for the bonds authorized by this act, and such as are now redeemable shall be presented for exchange on or before the first day of November next and not thereafter, and the residue to be progented within six months after the expiration of five years from their date and not thereafter; and such exchange shall be made at such places and under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may presented.

after the United States have resumed the payment of cois for their notes.

Sec. 6. This any contract hereafter made specifically payable in coin shall be legal and valid and may be enforced according to its forms, anything in the several acts relating to United States notes to the centrary not-withstanding.

The majority of the House Committee on Southern Railroads, at the conclusion of their report, submit the following femiletions, embracing what, in their opinion, would be the proper course to be taken by the govern-

would be the proper course to be taken by the government:

Resolved. That the Committee on the Judiciary is added they are beroly instructed to report to this House without delay a joint resolution declaring in substance that no claim shall be entertained by any officer or department in favor of any railroad or railroad company in any of the late robel States, or in favor of any such road or reling stock or other railroad properly, or for the transportation of thoops, government properly or pass vagare or mails, for any portion of the time during the late robellion or prior to the date of restoration, or reling to any portion of the time during the late robellion or prior to the date of restoration, or reling to any or the original owners after the cessation of bostilities.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary is made to the majority of R. L., then called up the resolution to print ten thousand copies of the majority and misority reports on the Stanton matter.

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hereby instructed to report to the House without delay a joint resolution requiring a strict accountability from all rulroads in the late rebel States; that they be compelled to liquidate their indebtedness upon the terms now granted, without consideration or recognition in the least degree, of any claims for damages by use or by occupation of the United States, to the end that payments shall be enforced according to the existing bonds, or in default thereof that government shall exercise its equal rights of possession and disposal.

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

SENATE.

SEMORIALS AND PETITIONS. Mr. PATTERSON, (dem.) of Tenn., presented a memorial of the discharged army officers in regard to the in-creased compensation veted in 1864, which was referred

Mr. Pomenov, (rep.) of Kansas, presented petitions of a convention of manufacturers at Cleveland, Ohio, in regard to the oppressiveness of the internal revenue tax iso of the merchants, &c., of New York on the same ubject, setting forth the difficulties in regard to the col-ection of the same which were referred to the Commit-

de on Finance.

Mr. Sumner, (rep.) of Mass., presented a memorial of the American Statistical Association, calling attention to the propositions relating to the metrical system of weights, measures and colos, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Ramer, (rep.) of Mina., presented a polition from the citizens of Minnesota praying aid for the Northern Pacific Railroad; also in regard to the protection of American citizens abroad, which were appropriately referred.

Mr. Birkhman, (rep.) of Ohio, introduced a bill to allow persons now occupying lands on islands in the Great Miami river, Ohio, the pro-emption of the same on taking the proper steps and paying \$2.50 per acre.

persons now occupying isnus on islands in the Great Miami river, Ohio, the pre-emption of the same on taking the proper steps and paying \$2.50 per acre.

The manneturor law.

Mr. Ferry, (rep.) of Coun., introduced a bill in addition to the act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

TERHER OF OFFICE.

On motion of Mr. Patterson, (rep.) of N. H., the Senate took up his proposed substitute reported from the Committee on Retronchments for an act in addition to the act for regulating the tenure of certain offsces.

After verbal amendments, Mr. Camkron, (rep.) of Pa., moved to strick out the provisio authorizing the Secretary of State to appoint five special agents to be paid out of the contingent fund department. He said the Senate had heretofore voted down the proposition.

Mr. Sumers said that Mr. Patterson had at that time given notice that he would move to insert the provision. Other departments were allowed twenty five agents each, and this but five.

Mr. Camkron repeated his objections to the system of secret agents. His great objection was that the men in all departments would thus be employed who had not the confidence of the country and could not be confirmed by the Senate.

Mr. Conness, (rep.) of Cal., took the same view as Mr. Summer. He thought it inexpedient to make any such change without at least an inquiry by the committee. If an administration existed at the other ond of the avenue in which the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Cameron) had confidence, be doubted whether he would attempt to take from the Secretary of State that small power so important to the interests of the State Department and the country.

Mr. Cameron hought it of doubtful propriety to question the motives of a Sentor, and inquired whether the Senator from Massachusetts had any more confidence in the administration?

Mr. Summer. Not at all.

Mr. Cameron hought at all.

Mr. Cameron hought is of doubtful propriety to question the motives of a Sentor, a

Senator from Massachusetts had any more confidence in the administration?

Mr. Summa—Not at all,
Mr. Cameron continued, saying that agents abroad did not do the country one copper's worth of good during the war. He had dired at Liverpool in 1862, where there were a score of foreign consuls present, and not one but the United States Consul was in favor of us. He thought the State Department the best place to begin the policy of retrentment.

the United States Consul was in favor of us. He thought the State Department the best place to begin the policy of retrenchment.

Mr. Frenchment.

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Mr. State Department elemed essential. In time of peace no special necessity existed for special agents abroad other than consuls, but he thought that the department had been conducted with economy and care.

Mr. Conness referred to the enormous contingencies of that department.

Mr. Frenchment element entravagant. If extravagance existed in any department it was in this chamber, and the adage "Physician, heal thyself" applied to them more than to shy department of the government. It was poor economy to cut off what might be necessary to the State Department, which should be allowed some discretion. If the department did not suit them let them change it.

The amendment of Mr. Cameron was lost—S to 30.

Mr. Stewarr, (rep.) of Nevada, offered another proviso, that names and amounts paid sub-agents shall be reported to the Sonite at the commencement of each session, with the time of appointment.

Mr. Sherman opposed the amendment as calculated to give great trouble unnecessarily. No one read such reports, and it would be an improper and humilitating exposure of names, such agents, perhaps, being men of high character.

Messra. Anthony and Henderson also opposed it, as calculated to defeat the very object of the amendment.

Mr. Summer again urged the absolute necessity of the

State Department.
Mr. Sunner again urged the absolute necessity of the

Mr. Patterson, of N. H., said it was not distrust of the ndministration that suggested such provisions to the committee, but the necessity for retrenchment. He hoped some useless consuls and ministers would be cut

The amendment was lost,
On motion of Mr. Howard, (rep.) of Mich., the bill was further amended by including railroad commissioners in

its provisions.

Mr. Harlan, (rep.) of Iowa, moved to add an additional section authorizing the President, with the consent of the Senate, to appoint, in addition to those now authorized by law, one Indian Agent for the Sante of Iowa, two for Dakotas, three for Montana, two for Idaho, two for Arizona, two for New Mexico, one for Nevada, and one for the Indian Territory, whose compensation shall not exceed \$1,500 a year, with authority to disconsistent of them.

lowa, two for Dakota, three for Montana, two for Idaho, two for Arizona, two for New Mexico, one for Newada and one for the Indian Territory, whose compensation shall not exceed \$1,500 a year, with authority to discontinuo any of them at any time. He explained that the bill cut off the present Indian Agents, and tois would legatize the appointments.

Mr. Sherman hoped the amendment would be voted down and suitable provision made in the General Appropriation bill.

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Hendricks, (dem.) of Ind., moved to strike out section three, providing for discontinuing all such officers ten days after the passage of this act, and requiring their reappointment and confirmation by the Senate. He was opposed, without reference to political considerations, to londing down the legislative bodies with such confirmations, and thought such matters should be left to heads of departments. They might as well require the confirmation of all the clerks in the departments pix the Senate. Responsibility for appointments should be left with the Executive or heads of departments, instead of with the Senate.

Mr. Strawkr asked whether the Senator thought a head of a department should be held responsible for the collection of revenue?

Mr. Hendricks replied in the affirmative. The responsibility should be left where the constitution left it, and efficiency of the departments could then be expected.

Mr. Conking, (rep.) of N. Y., said that laying frauds on the Fenare of Office bill was futile, as the President and heads of departments had full power of removal or suspension for misconduct; beyond that no reason for power existed onyond political preferences. The skiil will and adort! Senator from Indiana could not shift the responsibility to Congress, which had merely attempted to protect honest me in doing their duty.

Mr. Handricks reiterated that if a department was to be carried on successfully the head mest have the power of removal or appointment in his own hands, ing out a case against each man removed. He ex

Mr. Harian's motion was adopted.

Mr. Shreman segressed that a day be regularly fixed for the consideration of the Punding bill, and moved that four-day be set aport for that propose.

Mr. Presences and the question yet undisposed of should be neutted before a day was fixed upon. It was an important bill, that should not be hastly considered.

Mr. Shreman had no doubt the reconstruction debate would go on for six mouths on some bill or other. He gave notice that on Thursday next be would move to call up his funding bill, and said that he would move to call up his funding bill, and said that he would not press any hasty action.

Mr. Henderson introduced a bill to create an Indian Department and to provide for the government and creditation of the Indians. Also, he said by request, a bill to render more efficient the conduct of Indian affairs.

The impact of the formattee on Indians Affairs.

President from removing officers on political or per

President from removing officers on political or personal grounds.

After a few remarks by Mr. Pomenov in favor of retrenchment Mr. Anymony explained, in order to correct a common error, that the reason the printing of bills now looms up so large is that it includes all the department printing, which is very large. The Congressional printing was no larger, proportionately, than before the war.

Mr. Howz, (rep.) of Wis, said the public should be informed whether any reasons existed why the President, in endeavoring to get rid of the Secretary of War, engaged in conspiracy to exclude him from that office in spite of the provisions of the Tenung of Office bill and in defiance of the decision of the Senate.

Mr. Buckalew said the President had suspended Mr. Stanton without reference to the Fource of Office law, under power which he doubtless had. Those who thought the Supreme Court should be called upon to decide upon the constitutionality of the Tenury of Office hill were not precluded by that act of the President. He argued that greater power contains toke, and the President could therefore suspend as well as remove.

Mr. Howars naked whether the Senator knew of any precedent as a mere suspansion by the President.

Mr. Buckalew thought there were numerous precedents.

Mr. Hows contended that the power to suspend was

dents.

Mr. Howe contended that the power to suspend was the greator, not the less power. Mr. Stanton was suspended after the passage of the bill, in accordance with provisions. Before that time no such power existed. He desired to see the President's reasons for that endeavor to get rid of Mr. Stanton in print.

Mr. Pomeson moved to postpone indefinitely, but the motion was lost. The resolution was then adopted by 27 to 12.

The bill to addition to the Tenure of Office Hill.

The bill to addition to the Tenure of Office bill was gain taken up. The question was on Mr. Henderson's amendment to strike out the third section. The amend-

again taken up. The question was on Mr. Henderson's amendment to strike out the third section. The amendment was lost.

Mr. Colle, (rep.) of Cal., moved to strike out "ten days" and insert "thirty" as the time at which offices are declared vacant, and "no further appointments made without the consent of the Senale." He said in one district of San Francisco nearly as much tax was collected on whiskey as in the ten districts of New York and Brocklyn, and those efficent officers would propably be removed by the bill, and trouble would arise in replacing them. He was opposed to the bill. It would remove far more republicans than democrats; but it should at all events be amended in this manner.

The amendment was agreed to. The bill was then passed by yeas 32, nays 9.

The bill, which was published yesterday, now authorises twenty-five special agents, each to be appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury and Postmaster General, and twenty-five additional in the Treasury Department, with five by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Ramser, (rep.) of Min., called up the House bill to allow the Southern Minnesota Railroad Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Mississippi river and establish a post route.

Mr. Morkell, (rep.) of Ma., advecated referring the bill to the Committee on Commerce, saying that it was

allow the Southern Minnesota Railroad Company to construct and maintain a bridge across the Mississippi river and establish a post route.

Mr. Morrill, (rep.) of Me., advocated referring the bill to the Committee on Commerce, saying that it was a commercial question proposing to obstruct the Mississippi river.

Mr. Ramsry explained that the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads had always bad charge of such questions. General Warren, formerly of the Army of the Potomac, and a distinguished engineer, had examined the whole matter and had been before the Committee and informed them that such a bridge would be no obstruction, suitable draws having been provided. After further discussion by Messrs, Conness and Johnson the bill was passed.

LAND GRANTS IN NEVADA.

On motion of Mr. STEWART the bill further to provide for giving effect to various grants of public lands in Nevala was taken up and debated.

Mr. Fessexones, promising that further examination of the bill was-desirable, moved at ten minutes past four o'clock to go into Executive session, which was carried, and snortly after the Senate adjourned until Monday.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1868. The SPEAKER announced the appointment of Mr of Mr. Hamilton, deceased. PUBLIC LANDS ALONG THE LINE OF THE PACIFIC RAILBOAD

Mr. PRICE, (rep.) of lows, from the Pacific Railroad Committee, reported a bill restoring lands to market along the line of the Pacific railroads and branches. which was read three times and passed. The bill provides that nothing in the act of July 1, 1862, or in the which was read three times and passed. The bill provides that nothing in the act of July 1, 1862, or in the acts amendatory thereof, shall be held to authorize the withdrawal or exclusion from settlement or entry under the provisions of the pre-emption and homestead laws of the even numbered sections along the routes of such roads; provided, they shall be rated at two dollars and fifty cents an acre and be subject only to entry under those laws. It also directs the Secretary of the Interior to restore to homestead settlement, pre-emption or entry, all the even numbered sections of land belonging to the government and now withdrawn from market on both sides of the Pacific ratiroads and their branches whenever they shall be definitely located.

Mr. Spalding (rep.), of Ohio. from the Committee on Appropria ions, reported a bill making appropriations for the service of the Columbia institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb, and establishing additional regulations for the service of that institution, which was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. The bill appropriates \$48,000 for business purposes and \$3,000 for pupils from the District of Columbia, and provides for the appointment by the government of three directors.

The House then proceeded, as the business of the morning hour on Friday, to the consideration of business of a private character.

Mr. Pannax, freel.

The House then proceeded, as the business of the moraing hour on Friday, to the consideration of business of a private character.

Mr. Perham, (rep.) of Me., from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, reported a large number of bills granting pensions to the saidiers and the widows and orphans of soldiers, which were passed. The only question of interest in connection with those pension bills was whether the widow of a special agent of the Provost Marshal's Bureau, who was killed while arresting a descriver, was entitled to a pension and at what rate. The House granted the pension, but fixed it at the rate of a private instead of that of a lieutenant, as recommended by the committee.

MEW DRAWING FOR SKATS ORDERED.

After the moraing bour Mr. Poland, (rep.) of Vt., offered as a question of privilege a resolution for a new drawing of seats on Mooday next, on the ground that when the drawing of seats for this Congress in March last took place there were six States not represented. The proposition created a considerable breeze and opposition.

Mr. Spannya said that if there was to be a new deal

drawing of seats on Mooday next, on the ground that when the drawing of seats for this Congress in March last took place there were six States not represented. The proposition created a considerable breeze and opposition.

Mr. Spalding said that if there was to be a new deal and shuffle every time that other States were admitted there would be the same work in a fortnight hence, when the Representatives from Alabama are admitted. The resolution was finally adopted—yeas 86, nays 74.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. Wilson (rep.) of lowa, rising to a personal question, read an editorial article in yesterday's Naw York Heald to the effect that he, as chairman of the Judiciary Committee, had given testimony before that committee in reference to the charge against Judge Field and had implicated not only Judge Field but Judge Davies and Chief Justice Chase. He said there is not truth enough in that article to make it respectable fectors. At the time it was written the Judiciary Committee had not entered upon the investigation in the matter of Mr. Justice Field as to his alleged expressions with reference to the unconstitutionship of the Reconstruction acts and consequently he had not testified before the committee, for I know nothing respecting it. I know nothing of the views of Mr. Justice Pield Mr. Justice Davies, or Chief Justice Chase; for I have not conversed with enther of them on the subject. So far as it relates to the action of the committee, so far as I am connected with the grying of testimony before the committee, so far as it brings home to me any knowledge of the views of these members of the Supreme Court, the article is without the least foundation. It is made out of whole cloth from one end to the other.

Mr. Jonsson, (dem.) of Cal., rising to a personal explanation, referred to a remark made by Mr. Pyle, in objecting some weeks ago to a resolution offered by him in regard to the citizenship of Chinese in California, the objectionable expression at the time of the Supreme Court.

Mr. Jonsson, dem.) of Ca

and Mr. Spaleing suggested that Mr. Johnson print the reas of his story.

Mr. Print, (rep.) of Mo. asked for two minutes to reply to Mr. Johnson's remarks, and Mr. Johnson requested him to yield one-half of the time to him. (Laughter.)

Mr. Ross, (dem.) of III., objected to Mr. Pyle's request unless Mr. Johnson was allowed to disk his fable, He subsequently, however, withdraw his objections.

Mr. Print said he should avail himself on Monday of the opportunity to reply to Mr. Johnson's remarks. He would not press the matter now, having been dealed the privilege se discourtously by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Ross.)

LEGISLATIER, EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL APPROPRIATION WILL.

The House at three o'clock went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, Mr. Wilson of lowa in the chair, and resumed the consideration of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill. A leng and animated discussion arose on the question of adding to the appropriations of the Congressional employes the twenty per cent allowed last year, and which is omitted in the bill as reported. Finally the twenty per cont proposition, so far as applies to the employes of the Senale, was carried, 87 to 38.

Mr. MAYNAN, Fep. of Tonn, moved to strike out the item for the Geogress, and Globs. Negatived.

Mr. Farseworth, (rep.) of Ill., moved to strike out the item of \$3,500 for parking loxes for Senators, Agreed to.

Mr. Farseworth also moved to strike out the miscellaneous item of \$23,000. Agreed to.

agreed to, with the modification 's Mr. Washburne that he would ask for a vate on it in the House.

Mr. Maynam moved the p int of order that a paragraph in the bill requiring p int of order that a paragraph in the bill requiring p int of order that a paragraph in the bill requiring p int the place of the Capitol police was independent as a secretary of War to detail a military guard to a' a in the place of the Capitol order in an appropriate bill.

The Carinnan as a samed the point of order and the paragraph was passed the point of order and the paragraph was passed the point of order and the paragraph was passed to must be a mistake or must be the work of the printer's devil.

Mr. Boogs (edg.) of N. Y., said he did not believe that that pair passed had come from the Committee on Appropria soma, He though tit must be a mistake or must be ". Cosusa, (rep.) of Ind., moved an amendment that has developed the head that the amendment proposed independent legislation.

The Chairman sustained the point of order that the amendment proposed independent legislation.

The Chairman sustained the point of order.

Mr. Maynands and that the object could be attained by striking out the appropriation for the Globe. He did not propose to interferse with the corps of reporters, but he held that the reports should be published in the public printing office, where the work under its present management was infinitely better done than it had ever been belore.

After some discussion the motion of Mr. Maynard to

sgement was infinitely better done than it had ever been before.

After some discussion the motion of Mr. Maynard to strike out that appropriation was rejected.

The committee at halt-past four rose.

TRADE WITH CANADA.

Mr. Ingersoll, (rep.) of Ill., effered a resolution directing the Secretary of the Treasury to communicate a statement as to the trade with Canada since the abrogation of the Reciprocity treaty, and as to the arrangements for the free navigation of the St. Lawrence and for the privilege of fishing in the waters adjacent to Canada. Adopted.

REFORM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. GARPHELIA (rep.) of Ohio, presented a petition of the citizens of Warren, Trumbull county, Ohio, for legislation to reform the civil service and to reduce taxation on industry.

PENSION APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. HUTLER, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Pension Appropriation bill and a bill for the better regulation of the custody and expenditure of public moneys. Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

SOUTHERN RALEROADS.

Mr. MCCLURG, (Fep.) of Mo., from the Committee on

Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. McClurg, (rep.) of Mo., from the Committee on Southern Railroads, made a report, which, with the views of the minority submitted by Mr. Chanler, was ordered to be printed and recommitted.

PRITION FOR REPRAL OF THE INCOME TAX.

Mr. CRANLER, (dem.) of N. Y., presented a petition of the citizens of New York for the repeal of the income tax.

tax.

The House, at twenty minutes to five, adjourned, with the understanding that to-morrow's session will be for

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

Argument on the Motion to Dismiss the Mc-Ardio Case for Want of Jurisdiction. Washington, Feb. 7, 1868. The argument in the McArdie case came up to-day in

the Supreme Court, the motion being to dismiss the Judge Sharkey, of Mississippi, said the statute of February 5, 1867, was a remedial one, and should therefore receive a liberal construction, and that the clause which gave an appeal from the District Court to the Circuit Court, and from the Circuit Court to the Supreme Court of the United States, did not intend to confine the appeal to the Supreme Court to cases which merely ommenced in the District Court, but to give the appea to cases which commenced originally in the District or Circuit Court. There was no reason for Congress to make the distinction between the two cases. The exception in the case of the statute of 1867 as to persons

make the distinction between the two cases. The exception in the case-of the statute of 1867 as to persons charged with military offences and not apply to the case, for no military offence, like every other offence, was something to be asserted by law. It was a matter of no consequence in this argument whether Mississippi was a State or not. Even assuming it to be a mere territory, it was still under the constitution, and the people inhabiting it were entitled to its protection to its fullest extent.

Senator Trumbull, of Illinois, supported the motion to dismiss the appeal. The appellate jurisdiction of the court was conferred by the constitution, which declared that the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction both as to law and to fact, with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Congress shall make. The cases of Wiscort vs. Bauchy, of ex parte Keurny (5 Curtis 212), of Barry vs. Mercier (16 Curtis, 328), and of Metzger (16 Curtis, 348) gave construction to that clause of the constitution and sattled beyond controversy that the Supreme Court can only entertain appellate jurisdiction in pursuance of some act of Congress giving it; and at the time these decisions were made no statute existed giving jurisdiction in a case like the one under consideration. He argued that authority to issue writs of haboas corpus was conferred on the United States courts and the justices and judges thereof by the fourteenth section of the Supreme Court in a habeas corpus case, and that for nearly eighty years after the government was founded no such thing as an appeal or writ of error was allowed from the Circuit Court to the Supreme Court in a habeas corpus as conferred on the United States courts and the justices and judges thereof by the fourteenth section of the Supreme Court in a habeas corpus to a constitutional interty under State action of the circuit Court in early eighty years after the government was founded no such thing as an appeal or writ of error in any case his case it was first necessary to det that the act for the more officient government of the rebel States is constitutional. But for the purposes of this motion it was immaterial whether it was or was not constitutional. The guilt or innocence of McArdie, or whether he' was rightly or wronsly charged, was not the question. If it was the court would have to take jurisdiction to ascertain the facts—the very thing which Congress had not authorized it to do. This court did not sit to correct the wrongs in the country, and could only afford relief in the particular cases where the law gave it jurisdiction, and then only to the extent of relieving the particular cases where the law gave it jurisdiction, and then only to the extent of relieving the particular cases where the law gave it jurisdiction, and then only to the extent of relieving the particular cases arising under the act of February 5, 1867, still this appeal would not lay for the reason that it did not get into the Circuit Court by appeal which could be appealed to the Supreme Court. Mr. Trumbull said, in the course of his argument, that at the proper time, should this case ever come up for a final hearing, he should undertake to show that this act is constitutional, binding on all departments of the government; that there has been a great war in this country, inaugurated by its enemies for the overthrow of the Union and the constitution to raise and support armies for the constitution to raise and support armies for the constitution and the Union, and to employ such armies for that purpose till in its own good time it shall think proper to call them back, which will not be till the Union shall be restored in all its integrity and established upon foundations so strong that all the hosts of treason cannot provail against it; that to determine when that period shall have arrived is a pointical question belonging to Congress alone to decide, and when decided its decision is binding on all the departments of the control, it was enough for his present purpose to show that the State of Sississippi,

No. 209—Marshall et al., administrator and plaintiff in error, vs. Knott. Case argued. No. 210—Marshall et al., administrator and plaintiff in error, vv. Lard. Case argued, No. 147-White, plaintiff in error, vs. Cannon. Case argued.
The Court adjourned until Monday.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

[From the Evening Telegram of vesterday.]

At a democratic meeting to-day a committee of five prominent democrate of Cleveland was appointed to visit Washington to endeavor to secure the holding of the National Democratic Convention in this city.

THE CLEVELAND MURDER-ANOTHER FEMALE POISONER.

[From the Evening Telegram of yesterday,
CLEVELAND, Ohio, Felh 7, 1868.
The Commer's jury this morning returned a verdict
to the effect that in their opinion Mrs. Victor murdered
with areasical poison her brother, William Parquet, a
year ago. This is the first case in the annals of crime
in this vicinity in which a body after being buried a
year has been exhumed to furnish evidence of marder.
Mrs. Victor's examination before a justice will begin
to morrow morning.

below or vectors examinated solves a finete win begin to-morrow morning. Frofessor Cassels, of this city, is chemically examin-ing the stomach of a young man named James Powels, who is supposed to have been poisoned in Sammit county, in this State, last September, by a farmer's wife, an old lady. The woman intended the poison for her nusband, but killed the young man instead.

In the Wisconsin State Senate a few days ago a resolu-tion was introduced declaring the grand jury system a relic of barbarism, recommending its about and instructing the Judiciary Committee to report a bill for amending the constitution accordingly.

### POUGHKEEPSIE.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE HERALO. Burning of the Poughkeepsic Almshoust-Paulo Among the Immates-Desperate Encounter With a Lunatic-No Lives Lost.

Poughkeepsis, Feb. 7, 1868.

At about half-past twelve o'clock this morning George

P. Wert, a colored cook attached to the City Almshouse here heard a yell, as he supposed, proceeding from one of the crazy rooms in the building. It was not the but a wild, unearthly shrick. Becoming startled the cook ran out from the kitchen, when he was met by a German inmate who said the building was on fire. Looking up flames and smoke were seen issuing from the roof over the crazy room towards the east end of the main building. In sn nstant the alarm became general, when a scene among the eighty or ninety inmates therein confined. slapsed before the alarm reached the city. did a general signal of fire was rung out from the as soon as the exact locality of the fire became known a perfect stream of humanity commenced moving to-

wards the spot. All sorts of rumors were afloat in relation to "terrible disastera," "numbers burned to death," &c.; but all such rumors and reports were utterly false. The inmates, every one of them, and even all the furniture and bedding of the building, were, through the cooliness and presence of mind of the colored cook and Mr. David Hitchcock, removed to a place of safety.

When it was ascertained that there was no possible chance of checking the progress of the flames the attention of the colored cook and a man named David Moore was turned towards rescuing the inmates. Wert first rushed to the closed room of a crazy man named Frear. He started him out, when he ran down stairs. Reaching the bottom he chattered like an animal, and then ran into the burning building again. He was again started out and finally secured. Wert then broke into another crazy man's room, where a German named Mead was confined with a ball and chain to his lex. Mead took things rather coolly, and deliberately and haughingly walked out, carrying his load of iron with him. Other lunatics were removed as easily till the last one was reached, and he a desperate, crazy Spanlard, who went by the name of "Poily."

Both Wert and Moore, knowing the character of this man, resolved to go into his call together. They approached the door cauliously and after unitationing its saved and the series of the smoke whirled through the crazy spanlard. In the smoke whirled through the corridor and about the smoke whirled through the corridor and about the sort were soon decided that he had to act with great prompt.

meantime the flames were progressing rapidly and the smoke whirled through the corridor and about the smoke whirled through the corridor and about the smoke whirled through the corridor and about the crazy man's room in dense and suffocating volumes. Wert soon decided that he had to act with great promptness and energy, and immediately procuring an axe again pressed the door open and waking deiberately up to where the lunatic was chained to the floor raised the axe on high and with one tremendous blow sowered the chain. He then seized the Spaniard, who by this time had become thoroughly aroused, when a terrific tussle edsued. It was apparent that the lunatic was getting the better of the same man observing which, Moore, Wert's companion, rushed in and the two grappled with the creature. A very sever-encounter ensued during which the lunatic got Moore's hand in his mouth and incerated the skin terribly. After some further resistance the lunatic was picked up bothly and carried in safely from his dangerous position. All of the rest of the inmates were paniestricken, and ran to and fro in every direction, but as stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed. The building was a stated above were safely removed and heapt and the second removed to the passenger safely for the remain second removed to the passenger was intensely cold, and the firemen suffered severely. A number of the passenger was freight and passen

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